

NEWS FROM THE LABOR WORLD

The Riches of Love.

Talk about poverty—nothin', it seems, Rich am I ever, with love and the dreams Who with my wealth in the world can compare—

Rich in the glory of Jenny's gold hair? Beautiful, down-streaming hair, that I hold In the hands of me, kissing and loving Its gold!

Talk about poverty! Bright the sun streams, Take the world's riches and give me love's dreams—

Dreams in the dark skies and dreams in the fair, The light, the brave splendor of Jenny's gold hair, Earth hath its millions, but nothin' like this—

The beautiful hair whose gold ringlets I kiss, There is no poverty! Give me, dear God, Not the gold harvests that color the sod; Not the world's breath, over far oceans blown, But the red lips of Jenny that lean to my own!

And even in death just a joy like to this— Her gold hair to shadow me, sweet with love's kiss!

—Atlanta Constitution.

NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD.

Items of Interest Gathered from Many Sources.

It is reported that 238 manufacturing concerns in various parts of the country have withdrawn from the Parry association.

The members of the police force of Allesund, Norway, asked the town board for an increase of salary and on being refused they struck.

The defeat of the initiative and referendum amendments in Missouri at the recent election caused universal regret in organized labor circles.

It should be the aim of every union member as well as every sympathizer with our great cause to be helpful in every way to extend the beneficent influence of the labor press.—By Samuel Gompers.

An organization to be known as the National child labor committee was recently formed in New York. The names of several prominent persons appear in the list of those who are interested in the new organization.

President Theodore Shaffer of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers said he will not be a candidate for re-election. He declared, however, he is not being driven out. President Shaffer is an aspirant for the position of commissioner of labor.

Following close on the announcement that Gov. Peabody was to withdraw from the contest for governor of the Western Federation of Miners has called off the strikes in Telluride and Ophir. In all likelihood the same action will be taken in every mining camp in the state.

The fact cannot be overlooked that there is a movement in progress tending to strengthen the fraternal relations of workmen all over the world, a general onward and upward movement of unionists being clearly exhibited everywhere.—By Hans Fehlinger, Organizer for Australia.

"There is no better friend to true business than the trade union. Business, in its real sense, is not to set wheels to turning and cause the smoke to ascend from the factory chimneys, but to find a market for the products of brain and brawn."—W. D. Mahon, president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America.

Pittsburg gets the convention of the American Federation of Labor for 1905. Invitations were extended by St. Louis and a few minor cities, but the activity of the union leaders at Pittsburg won. And at that eastern industrial center the trades unions command great attention and it is expected that the convention air will team with interest.

After six months' trial of the "open shop" policy advocated by the Chi-

cago Employers' association, the Cole-Davis Shoe company, has withdrawn from the Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' association and signed a closed shop agreement with the Boot and Shoe Workers' union. Edward M. Cole, president of the company, said that he had taken the step for business reasons, because he had found out that it paid to have the union stamp.

The union miners in the employ of the various commercial coal operators in Birmingham, Ala., have received an advance of five cents a ton for mining coal and a corresponding advance in the price of day labor. This means that the cost of mining coal has increased nearly nine cents. The increase was based on the fact that iron is selling at more than \$10.50 a ton. All coal mining contracts in this district are on a sliding scale, based on the price of iron.

The National founders association has adopted a policy for dealing with organized labor which may bring on trouble. It declares for the removal of all unionist restrictions on individual output. The association's convention at Cincinnati, however, also adopted a resolution announcing continued belief in the principle of arbitration and disapproval of strikes or lockouts, and instructed its officers and administrative council to favor arbitration with employees, either singly or collectively.

The twenty-fourth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor was one of the longest and most strenuous in the history of the organization. It began its deliberations on the morning of Nov. 14 and did not end until Nov. 26. The convention will go on record as having passed upon some of the most important questions that it has ever been its duty to discuss. If assistance to the strikers of Fall River, Mass., will go down in the history of unionists as one of the many humane acts for which the national body is responsible.

With the opening of the plate mill the Illinois Steel company announced an equalization of the wages of employees. W. S. Shields, superintendent of the plant at South Chicago, posted notices which mean a complete readjustment of the wages paid the 300 men of the plate mill. According to the outline of the equalization plan skilled workmen, as heaters and turners, who received from \$8 to \$10 a day, will receive a reduction of from \$2 to \$3 each, the men receiving \$1.40 will get \$1.80, the \$1.50 men will get \$2 and the \$1.85 men will receive \$2.20.

All arrangements have at last been perfected for the amalgamation of the International association of machinists and the allied metal mechanics. The agreement to consolidate the two organizations was made in New York city the other day. One of the points of difference in the way of the amalgamation was the name of the new organization. Representatives of either body contended that when the consolidation was effected it should be called after their organization. The mechanics yielded, and all other points being settled, the amalgamation will take place in the near future. It will be called the International association of machinists.

The following organizations, having no individual label, have adopted the official label of the American Federation of Labor: Artificial Limb Makers, Costumers, Badge and Lodge Paraphernalia Workers, Baking Powder Workers, Soda and Mineral Water Bottlers, Cigarette Paper Workers, Coffee and Spice Workers, Cloth Spongers and Refinishers, Distillers and Rectifiers, Medicine Workers,

Horse Shoe Nail Workers, Neckwear Cutters and Makers, Oyster Workers, Photographic Supply Workers, Salt Workers, Soap Workers, Soda and Mineral Workers, Starch Workers, Suspender Makers, Umbrella Makers, Wine and Liquor Workers.

Among the unions represented by delegates with voting power in the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor were the following, which are seldom mentioned: Four locals of the Undertakers' Union, one having two votes; two locals of bookkeepers, both represented by women; Barber Shop Porters and Bath House Attendants, one local of Cemetery Employees, one local of Firemen, the Milkers' Protective Union, Newsboys and Route Carriers' Union, Ordnance Men's Union, Paste Makers, Union, Oyster Workers' Union, Fish Cleaners' Union, five locals of the Agricultural Workers' Union, the Coffee Selectors' Union.

The Commercial Telegraphers' union of America has removed its headquarters to Chicago, and now occupies a suite of rooms on the fifth floor of the Monon building. To increase the membership of the organization the initiation fee has been lowered to \$1.75 until Jan. 1. Circular letters, giving the aims and objects of the organization, together with reforms in the service it hopes to bring about, have been sent to all commercial telegraphers in the country by International President S. J. Small. Among the reforms desired is a more equitable arrangement of hours and salaries of managers and operators of offices of the second and third class.

That the "closed shop" is illegal was decided by the justices of the appellate division of the New York Supreme Court, sitting in Brooklyn. A contract entered into between the firm of Morris Cohn & Sons and the Protective Coat Tailors and Pressers' Local No. 55 of the United Garment Workers of America, whereby the firm was prohibited from employing labor not belonging to the local, and also from employing even a member of the union unless such member held a card signed by the business agent of the local, was declared by the court to be contrary to public policy. Presiding Justice Hirschberg wrote the court's opinion. Justice Bartlett dissented.

Before the adjournment of the trans-Mississippi congress, which met in St. Louis a few days ago, the following resolution on labor and capital was adopted: "We favor union labor and the combination of capital as the proper means to advance the public good, but we condemn any act of combined labor or capital that in any way abridges the natural rights of man. We recommend the enforcement of the Sherman act of 1890, and to that end urge congress to pass an amendment to that act making it the duty of the United States district attorneys to prosecute all unions of labor or capital wherever evidence making a prima facie case of a breach of the terms of the act are presented. And we recommend the appointment of a special commission by congress to investigate the arbitration laws of New Zealand and other countries which may have such laws."

In an appeal issued to the public, and organized labor in particular, by the Pennsylvania Blue Label league to aid in the work of stimulating the demand for union made cigars, the statement is made that in that state there are at least 5,000 children employed in the manufacture of non-union cigars. These children operate machines, which turn out immense quantities of cheap cigars, which flood the markets and are sold in direct competition with the products of factories that employ adult labor. The child workers are paid a mere pittance, and the result is their employers are able to place their goods on the market at a much lower figure than can the manufacturer employing men and women who work for the union scale of wages. The cigar-makers' organization are committed to the work of ridding the country of child labor. They believe that by agitating the use of union made goods the evil may in part be remedied.

FARM MISCELLANY

When Hogs Can't Walk.

Men that were raised on New England farms have memories of great fat hogs that for months before slaughter were unable to stand on their hind legs. The writer has seen hogs that weighed almost 600 pounds that before slaughter had to move around on their haunches as on a pivot. They ate and slept in the same place, turning one way to eat and the other to sleep. Their owners thought it nothing unusual, they only said: "The hog has become so fat he can't stand up." Yet with more light on the situation we know that it was not a case of fatness only, but a case of the constant feeding of corn and slop, out of which the animal could not manufacture any bone or muscles that would sustain his weight. In those days the food of such hogs was corn as largely as it is now. Had those animals received a ration composed of ground oats, skim milk and such nitrogen supplying foods they would have had a bone-and-muscle that would have carried about any weight. The same results come from the same causes now, but it is not so apparent, as the hogs are marketed at half the weight they were in the days mentioned. No man should feed a corn diet exclusively to his hogs.—Farmers' Review.

Mulching for the Orchard.

At the Michigan Horticultural Society meeting W. J. Green discussed this subject, and his advice was as follows: "When the orchard is young probably more material can be grown on the entire area than will be needed, but as the orchard grows the quantity needed will be increased. Finally little can be grown because of the shade; in other words, mulching material must be brought from other fields.

In growing an orchard by the usual method of cultivation with catch crops, the first outlay, and all cost of producing the crop, and at the same time cultivating the orchard for ten years, can, under favorable conditions, be got out of the sale of crops produced; but if much extra fertilizing is done the crops will have to be such as bring the highest price with least drain on the soil. Doubtless a heavily mulched orchard suffers less from changes of temperature and variation of rainfall than one unmulched. An orchard with a store of plant food constantly increasing the soil is like a man with a life insurance in a solvent company."

Do We Believe It?

It is an old saying that the bull is "half the herd." Do we really believe it? Plenty of men, according to Prof. Frases of Illinois, will pay \$300 or \$400 for a good registered cow, yet the owner will not pay more than \$200 for a sire to head the same herd. Does not that fact show that but few men value the sire as highly as they do the dam? Yet she has but one calf a year, while he is the sire of many. It often takes a statement like this to show us what we really do believe. The most famous and successful breeders have always paid their highest money for sires, rather than dams, with all breeds of domestic animals.

Keeping Cows to Capacity.

It is a matter of the greatest difficulty to get a cow back to her flow of milk when it has once been permitted to shrink. From the time she becomes fresh until she has been in milk nine or ten months, the dairy cow should be kept up to her full capacity. This is especially important with young heifers. The gift of continuance is a valuable gift in a cow, and to acquire it she must be trained when young.